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1.(Twice Amended) A digital camera for use with a printer having predetermined process colors and printing process characteristics, said camera comprising:

- an imager to capture images;
- an image processor with program memory for processing the captured image to produce an initially-processed image; and
- additional program memory for further processing the initially-processed image to effect compensation for changes in printer characteristics which vary during the printing process [of the printer].

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4.(Twice Amended) A digital camera for use with printers having predetermined process color and printing process parameters, a camera interface, an inexpensive simple processor, a program memory, and a marking apparatus under the control of the program memory; said camera comprising:

- an imager to capture images;
- an image processor with program memory for processing the captured image to produce an initially-processed image;
- additional program memory for further processing the initially-processed image to effect compensation for changes in printer characteristics which vary during the printing process [of the printer]; and
- a printer interface for receiving process color and printing process parameters from the printer and for transmitting processed images to the printer.

5.(Twice Amended) A system comprising:
a printer having predetermined process colors and printing process characteristics; and
a digital camera including an imager to capture images, an image processor with program memory for processing the captured image to produce an initially-processed image, and additional program memory for further processing the initially-processed image to effect compensation for changes in printer characteristics which vary during the printing process [of the printer].

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8.(Twice Amended) A system comprising:

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a printer having predetermined process color and printing process parameters, a camera interface, an inexpensive simple processor, a program memory, and a marking apparatus under the control of the program memory; and

a camera having an imager to capture images, an image processor with program memory for processing the captured image to produce an initially-processed image, additional program memory for further processing the initially-processed image to effect compensation for changes in printer characteristics which vary during the printing process [of the printer], and a printer interface for receiving process color and printing process parameters from the printer and for transmitting processed images to the printer.

REMARKS

Claims 9 and 10 are cancelled.

Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Parulski et al (US 5,040,068 taken alone or in view of Ichikawa (US 5,717,839).

The claims, as examined, call for a camera having a camera adapted to process image information to compensate for "the printing process of the printer." According to the specification, at page 4, lines 23-28, variations of parameters during printing are referred to as "printing process variations." Examples are provided, and it is clear that the printing process compensation is directed to those parameters that change during printing; as opposed either to "fixed" parameters which do not change from printer-to-printer or to "variable" parameters which do change from printer-to-printer, but which do not change after a particular printer is manufactured (see page 4, lines 3-13).

Applicant proposes the present amendment, not to change the scope of the claims, but rather to make the existing scope clearer.

Not one of the references of record discloses a camera that provides for processing the image to effect compensation for printer parameters which process parameters which change during the printing process. Parulski et al. up loads data to the camera which has been stored in the printer during the manufacturing process. This data represents "fixed" parameters which do not change from printer-to-printer or "variable" parameters which do change from printer-to-printer, but which do not change after a particular printer is manufactured. This is